(c) Yes, Sir. It is not proposed to abolish the parking fees being charged by the Directorate of Horticulture, CPWD which has been introduced to avoid cases of vehicle thefts which occur earlier when no authorised parking facility was available.

Lack of funds with DDA

621. SHRI N. E. BALARAM: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that all the major housing and development projects of the Delhi Development Authority (DDA) have come to a stand still due to lack of funds;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof and the reasons for the financial difficulties being faced by the DDA; and

(c) what steps are proposed to be taken by Government to solve the problem?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI DALBIR SINGH): (a) No Sir.

(b) and (c) There has been some set-back in the progress of major housing and development projects undertaken by the DDA due to the financial position of the DDA which has become difficult owing to the massive house construction programme undertaken by it, blockage of its funds spent in the Asiad Properties and in maintenance of resettlement colonies. It is for the DDA to make a thorough study of its own resources position. The Authority has accordingly made such a study and estimated the resource gap at Rs. 149.40 crores. It had proposed to bridge this gap by floating debentures. The Government has not found this proposal practicable and has suggested to the DDA that they may consider the alternative proposals. The Government is however, taking action to re-imburse the expenditure incurred by DDA on resettlement colonies and to the Asiad properties.

Merger of Song and Drama Division with Directorate of Field Publicity

622. SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to refer to the reply to Unstarred Question 375 given in the Rajya Sabha on 25th April, 1986 and state:

(a) whether All India Staff Artists Association and staff of the Song and Drama Division along with the National Federation of Information and Broadcasting Employees have opposed the merger of Song and Drama Division and the Field Publicity Directorate;

(b) if so, what are their demands; and

(c) whether any steps have been taken or are being taken to discuss the proposal of merger with them?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI V. N. GADGIL): (a) to (c) The proposal to merge the Directorate of Field Publicity with the Song and Drama Division, with a view to improve their effectiveness at the field level, is under consideration of the Government. All India Staff Artists and Staff of Song and Drama Division and the National Federation of Information and Broadcasting Employees have opposed the proposal of merger. No final decision has been taken in the matter so far.